

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Declaration and Power of Attorney

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our name.

We believe we are the original, first and sole inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **A MASK LAYER AND INTERCONNECT STRUCTURE FOR DUAL DAMASCENE FABRICATION OF A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE** the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by an amendment, if any, specifically referred to in this oath or declaration.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to us which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

None

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to us to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

None

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

We hereby appoint the following attorney(s) with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute said application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Lester H. Birnbaum	(Reg. No. 25830)
Richard J. Botos	(Reg. No. 32016)
Gerard A. deBlasi	(Reg. No. 34149)
Anthony Grillo	(Reg. No. 36535)
Mark A. Kurisko	(Reg. No. 38944)
Robert P. Marley	(Reg. No. 32914)
Scott W. McLellan	(Reg. No. 30776)
Geraldine Monteleone	(Reg. No. 40097)
Scott J. Rittman	(Reg. No. 39010)
Ferdinand M. Romano	(Reg. No. 32752)
David L. Smith	(Reg. No. 30592)
John P. Veschi	(Reg. No. 39058)

We hereby appoint the attorney(s) on ATTACHMENT A as associate attorney(s) in the aforementioned application, with full power solely to prosecute said application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected with the prosecution of said application. No other powers are granted to such associate attorney(s) and such associate attorney(s) are specifically denied any power of substitution or revocation.

Full name of sole inventor (or 1st joint inventor): Robert YS Huang

Inventor's signature Robert Y.S. Huang Date 1/8/02

Residence: 2236 Blackjack Oak Street
Ocoee, FL 34761

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 2236 Blackjack Oak Street
Ocoee, FL 34761

Full name of sole inventor (or 2nd joint inventor): Scott Jessen

Inventor's signature Scott W. Jessen Date 1/7/02

Residence: 6622 Banner Lake Circle, #8202
Orlando, FL 32821

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 6622 Banner Lake Circle, #8202
Orlando, FL 32824

Full name of sole inventor (or 3rd joint inventor): Subramanian Karthikeyan

Inventor's signature Subramanian Karthikeyan Date 1/7/02

Residence: 2207 Doe Crossing Court
Orlando, Florida 32837

Citizenship: India

Post Office Address: 2207 Doe Crossing Court
Orlando, FL 32837

Full name of sole inventor (or 4th joint inventor): Joshua Jia Li

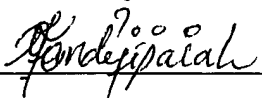
Inventor's signature _____ Date _____

Residence: 8615 Forest Run Lane
Orlando, Florida 32836

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 8615 Forest Run Lane
Orlando, FL 32836

Full name of sole inventor (or 5th joint inventor): Isaiah O. Oladeji

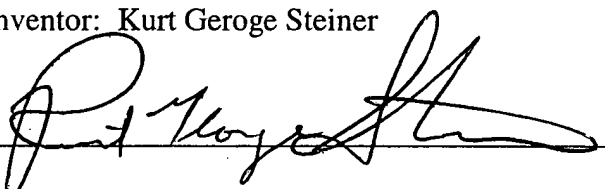
Inventor's signature  Date 01/07/2002

Residence: ~~1481 South Kirkman Road, #2086~~ 1608 Cerulean Way
Orlando, Florida ~~32811~~ GOTH A, FL 34734

Citizenship: Nigeria

Post Office Address: ~~1481 South Kirkman Road, #2086~~ 1608 CERULEAN WAY
Orlando, FL ~~32811~~ GOTH A, FL 34734

Full name of 6th joint inventor: Kurt Gero Steiner

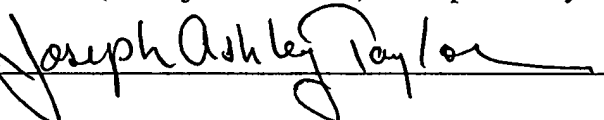
Inventor's signature  Date 01/09/2002

Residence: 7603 Sandstone Drive
Orlando, FL 32836

Citizenship: USA

Post Office Address: 7603 Sandstone Drive
Orlando, FL 32836

Full name of sole inventor (or 7th joint inventor): Joseph Ashley Taylor

Inventor's signature  Date 01/21/02

Residence: 2546 Runyon Circle
Orlando, Florida 32837

Citizenship: Nigeria

Post Office Address: 2546 Runyon Circle
Orlando, FL 32837

ATTACHMENT A

Attorney Name(s):	<u>James H. Beusse</u>	Reg. No.:	<u>27,115</u>
	<u>Robert L. Wolter</u>		<u>36,972</u>
	<u>Enrique J. Mora</u>		<u>36,875</u>
	<u>David G. Maire</u>		<u>34,865</u>
	<u>Terry M. Sanks</u>		<u>45,069</u>

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ORLANDO, FL 32801**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Applicant: Robert YS Huang, et al

Serial No.: 10/026,257

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 21, 2001

For: A Mask Layer and Interconnect
Structure for Dual Damascene
Fabrication of a Semiconductor
Device

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Assignment Division
Box ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4
1213 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Ste. 320
Washington, DC 20231

DECLARATION OF MARY V. CARTER

1. My name is Mary V. Carter. I am the Legal Assistant to General Counsel for the Intellectual Property Law Section at Agere Systems, Inc., 9333 South John Young Parkway, Orlando, Florida 32819-8698.

2. The above-reference patent application was filed on December 21, 2001 by our outside intellectual property counsel. In preparation for the filing of this application, the Declaration and Power of Attorney and Assignment and Agreement documents were forwarded to the inventors, all of whom were employees of Agere Systems, Inc. at the time the invention was disclosed.

3. At the time of the filing of the above-referenced application, Joshua Jia Li was no longer employed by Agere Systems, Inc. The documents were forwarded to Mr. Li at his last known address, 8615 Forest Run Lane, Orlando, Florida 32836. The United States Post Office returned the documents with no forwarding address information. All attempts to locate Mr. Li have been to no avail.

4. The other named inventors, who are also employees of Agere Systems, Inc., have advised me that Mr. Li has moved to Singapore; however, no one has a forwarding address for Mr. Li, and we are otherwise unable to find or contact Mr. Li.

5. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and believe are believed to be true and further that

these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application and any registration resulting therefrom.

Signed at Orlando, Florida, this 13th day of February, 2002.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary V. Carter", written over a horizontal line.

Mary V. Carter

Title:

Agere Systems, Inc.